

(19) United States

(12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2004/0122764 A1 Bilski et al.

Jun. 24, 2004 (43) Pub. Date:

(54) CAPPED BILL SYSTEMS, METHODS AND **PRODUCTS**

Inventors: Bernie Bilski, Pittsburgh, PA (US); Teresa Kishlock, Murrysville, PA (US); Laura S. Lewis, Irwin, PA (US); Jim McLaughlin, Pittsburgh, PA (US); Vijay Parmar, Pittsburgh, PA (US); Rand A. Warsaw, Monroeville, PA (US)

Correspondence Address:

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART LLP 535 SMITHFIELD STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15222 (US)

10/108,089 Appl. No.:

(22)Filed: Mar. 27, 2002

Publication Classification

ABSTRACT (57)

A method of providing one of a good or a service to at least one entity at one of a payment, rate, or price that is capped at a pre-determined amount. The method includes producing an offer for the entity, wherein the offer represents at least one of a capped maximum payment, a capped maximum rate, a capped maximum usage, a capped maximum consumption, or a capped maximum price amount. The method also includes providing the good or service to the entity at one of a payment, rate, or price that may fluctuate, wherein the payment, rate, or price cannot exceed the capped maximum payment, capped maximum rate, capped maximum usage, capped maximum consumption, or capped maximum price amount.

